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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999*

Part III International justice and law

Section 6
Legal affairs
(Programme 4 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001)

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* The present document contains section 6 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/52/6/Rev.1).

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Section 6
Legal affairs
(Programme 4 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001)

Overview

6.1 The Office of Legal Affairs is responsible for the implementation of the work programme under this section. The programme is guided by the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs, namely UNCITRAL. Guidance is also given by the meeting of States parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

6.2 The activities for which the Office of Legal Affairs is responsible fall within the framework of programme 4, Legal affairs, as it appears in the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 (A/51/6/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1).

6.3 According to the medium-term plan, the overall objectives of programme 4 are to provide a unified central legal service for the Secretariat and the principal and other organs of the United Nations, to contribute to the progressive development and codification of international public and trade law, to promote the strengthening and development as well as the effective implementation of the international legal order for the seas and oceans, to register and publish treaties and to perform the depositary functions of the Secretary-General. The Office of Legal Affairs seeks to achieve this through the provision of legal services on questions of international and national, public, private, procedural and administrative law, by providing substantive secretariat functions to a number of United Nations bodies and by contributing to the understanding, acceptance, and consistent application of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and related implementing agreements, through the expeditious processing and publication of treaty-related actions and treaties registered and deposited, and by providing assistance to Member States in matters related to treaty law (A/51/6/Rev.1, para. 4.1).

6.4 The official responsible for managing this programme is the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, the Legal Counsel of the United Nations.

6.5 The budget proposal reflects a comprehensive internal review of all subprogrammes. With respect to subprogrammes 1-3 and 5, the conclusion is that they should continue unchanged. The conclusion is based on guidance received from the General Assembly as well as on feed-back from other entities with which the Office of Legal Affairs interacts. The details are explained below. Special attention, on the other hand, has been given to significant changes in subprogrammes 4, Law of the sea and ocean affairs, and 6, Custody, registration and publication of treaties.

6.6 With respect to subprogramme 4, important developments have occurred in the field of the law of the sea that have made it necessary to redefine in part the role of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, which has been reorganized to reflect current needs. In particular, account has been taken of the establishment of two new treaty organs which, although they are autonomous, are nevertheless linked to the United Nations: the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the International Seabed Authority. The focus of this Division will now be on its new mandate by the General Assembly, *inter alia*, to assist States and international organizations in ensuring consistency of ocean-related legal instruments and programmes with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and related agreements, and to provide to the Assembly an overview of developments and emerging issues in law of the sea and ocean affairs.

6.7 With regard to subprogramme 6, radical changes designed to rationalize the work of the Treaty Section have been implemented. The computerization programme in this section is well under way. The backlog that had developed over a number of years is being addressed through a multifaceted approach and is expected to be eliminated by 1999. Furthermore, in order to enhance efficiency, four Professional posts and one General Service post have been redeployed to the Treaty Section from the Copy Preparation and Proof-Reading Section, Office of Conference and Support Services.

6.8 Special effort will be made during the biennium to expedite, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 51/209 of 17 December 1996, the preparation and publication of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*. The summary of the practice of the principal organs pertaining to the 111 articles of the Charter of the United Nations has always been the responsibility of six separate departments/offices in the Secretariat. The publication of the *Supplement*, therefore, calls for and depends on timely completion of the respective tasks by all concerned. The Office of Legal Affairs itself prepares studies on some 25 Charter articles distributed according to competence among the various divisions. The office also chairs the Inter-Departmental Review Committee for the final review.

6.9 The overall level of resources proposed for the Office of Legal Affairs for the biennium 1998-1999 amounts to $31,791,300 before recosting, reflecting a growth of $1,536,800 (5.0 per cent) compared with the revised appropriation for 1996-1997 and taking into account the redeployment mentioned above. The overall level of resources, as indicated in table 6.3 below, reflects, *inter alia*, the abolition of six Professional posts and three General Service posts, the proposal for the establishment of one P-3 post, the upward reclassification of one D-1 level post to D-2 and five Other level posts to Principal level, and the redeployment of five posts (four Professional and one General Service) to the Treaty Section from the Copy Preparation and Proof-Reading Section, Office of Conference and Support Services. The overall level of resources also includes growth in the amount of $1,140,200 for contractual services, $90,000 for general operating expenses, $24,600 for supplies and materials and $12,600 for fellowships, grants, contributions; and reductions in the amount of $3,500 for other staff costs, $76,700 for consultants and experts, $88,400 for travel, $600 for hospitality and $492,600 for furniture and equipment.

6.10 The estimated percentage distribution of the total resources of the programme in 1998-1999 would be as follows:

		Regular budget	*Extra-budgetary*
		(percentage)	
A.	Policy-making organs	9.9	—
B.	Programme of work	85.7	100.0
C.	Programme support	4.4	—
	Total	**100.0**	**100.0**

6.11 The estimated percentage distribution of resources among subprogrammes would be as follows:

	Regular budget	*Extra-budgetary*
	(percentage)	
Subprogramme 1 Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services to the United Nations as a whole	10.6	18.4
Subprogramme 2 General legal services to United Nations organs and programmes	14.0	70.0
Subprogramme 3 Progressive development and codification of international law	16.6	4.8
Subprogramme 4 Law of the sea and ocean affairs	19.5	1.0
Subprogramme 5 Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade	12.4	5.8
Subprogramme 6 Custody, registration and publication of treaties	26.9	—
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**

It should be noted that the 6 subprogrammes defined in the new medium-term plan correspond to the 10 subprogrammes in programmes 9 and 10 in the previous plan (A/47/6/Rev.1) as follows:

New subprogramme	*Previous programme/subprogramme*	
1	9.1	Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services to the United Nations as a whole
2	9.4	General legal services to United Nations organs and programmes
3	9.3	Progressive development and codification of international law
4	10.1-5	1. Promoting uniform and consistent application of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and providing advice and information to States
		2. Assisting marine policy development and integrated ocean management by States in the context of the comprehensive ocean regime
		3. Support to organizations within the United Nations system and harmonization of marine affairs activities in the context of the Convention
		4. Servicing the Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and support to the future Authority and Tribunal
		5. Servicing the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf established by the Convention and other intergovernmental bodies, and execution of additional responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention
5	9.5	Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade
6	9.2	Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Table 6.1 **Summary of requirements by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component	1994-1995 expenditures	1996-1997 appropriations	Resource growth		Total before recosting	Recosting	1998-1999 estimates
			Amount	Percentage			
A. Policy-making organs							
1. International Law Commission	1 956.8	1 944.8	(64.4)	(3.3)	1 880.4	(5.5)	1 874.9
2. United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	328.1	342.2	(0.1)	—	342.1	5.5	347.6
3. United Nations Administrative Tribunal (including its secretariat)	968.1	887.5	151.7	17.0	1 039.2	60.8	1 100.0
Subtotal	**3 253.0**	**3 174.5**	**87.2**	**2.7**	**3 261.7**	**60.8**	**3 322.5**
B. Programme of work							
1. Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services	3 473.9	2 650.4	206.8	7.8	2 857.2	179.0	3 036.2
2. General legal services to United Nations organs and programmes	2 619.7	3 472.1	304.5	8.7	3 776.6	246.2	4 022.8
3. Progressive development and codification of international law	3 601.8	4 008.5	457.5	11.4	4 466.0	287.4	4 753.4
4. Law of the sea and ocean affairs	8 171.9	6 593.2	(1 327.9)	(20.1)	5 265.3	339.5	5 604.8
5. Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade	3 214.5	3 242.5	291.5	8.9	3 534.0	31.2	3 565.2
6. Custody, registration and publication of treaties	5 854.4	5 957.6	1 309.6	21.9	7 267.2	457.3	7 724.5
Subtotal	**26 936.2**	**25 924.3**	**1 242.0**	**4.7**	**27 166.3**	**1 540.6**	**28 706.9**
C. Programme support Departmental administration	—	1 155.7	207.6	17.9	1 363.3	86.1	1 449.4
Subtotal	**—**	**1 155.7**	**207.6**	**17.9**	**1 363.3**	**86.1**	**1 449.4**
Total	**30 189.2**	**30 254.5**	**1 536.8**	**5.0**	**31 791.3**	**1 687.5**	**33 478.8**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
		(i) United Nations organizations:	
1 965.2	2 477.9	Support to extrabudgetary administrative structures	2 730.0
		(ii) Extrabudgetary activities:	
360.6	688.4	Peacekeeping operations	768.3
		(b) Substantive activities	
161.9	219.0	Trust Fund for the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Symposia	220.0
99.3	130.0	Trust Fund for the Seminar on International Law	130.0
31.9	33.0	Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law — The Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship	40.0
—	500.0	Trust Fund to Assist States in the Judicial Settlement of Disputes through the International Court of Justice	—
100.2	—	Trust Fund for Supporting Developing Countries Participating in the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks	—
699.2	—	Trust Fund for the Commission of Experts established pursuant to Security Council resolution 780 (1992)	—
90.2	—	Special Account for the Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for Pioneer Investors' Application Fees	—
—	—	Voluntary Fund to grant travel assistance to developing countries members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	10.0
0.5	9.0	Trust Fund for the Gilberto Amado Memorial Lecture	9.0
—	50.0	Trust Fund for the Least Developed Countries in the Work of the Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court and in the 1998 Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries	50.0
		(c) Operational projects	
—	—	Bilateral sources	—
3 509.0	**4 107.3**	**Total**	**3 957.3**
33 698.2	**34 361.8**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**37 436.1**

Table 6.2 Summary by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	23 221.9	23 789.5	931.2	3.9	24 720.7	1 413.5	26 134.2
Other staff costs	530.0	381.7	(3.5)	(0.9)	378.2	22.0	400.2
Non-staff compensation	241.6	278.0	—	—	278.0	—	278.0
Consultants and experts	203.3	610.4	(76.7)	(12.5)	533.7	24.2	557.9
Travel	2 544.7	2 589.4	(88.4)	(3.4)	2 501.0	36.6	2 537.6
Contractual services	1 419.4	1 129.7	1 140.2	100.9	2 269.9	126.9	2 396.8
General operating expenses	807.6	270.3	90.0	33.2	360.3	20.8	381.1
Hospitality	3.4	6.6	(0.6)	(9.0)	6.0	0.4	6.4
Supplies and materials	82.5	47.2	24.6	52.1	71.8	4.3	76.1
Furniture and equipment	758.4	827.4	(492.6)	(59.5)	334.8	18.7	353.5
Grants and contributions	376.4	324.3	12.6	3.8	336.9	20.1	357.0
Total	**30 189.2**	**30 254.5**	**1 536.8**	**5.0**	**31 791.3**	**1 687.5**	**33 478.8**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Object of expenditure*	*1998-1999 estimates*
2 587.9	3 140.0	Posts	3 418.4
62.1	—	Other staff costs	—
23.6	438.3	Consultants and experts	75.0
598.0	262.4	Travel	240.0
30.2	50.0	Contractual services	3.0
73.4	13.6	General operating expenses	40.4
—	40.0	Supplies and materials	4.2
2.6	—	Furniture and equipment	6.3
131.2	163.0	Grants and contributions	170.0
3 509.0	**4 107.3**		**3 957.3**
Total (1) and (2)	**33 698.2**	**34 361.8**	**37 436.1**

Table 6.3 **Post requirements**

Programme: Legal affairs

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
USG	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-2	3	4	—	—	1	—	4	4
D-1	9	7	—	—	1	2	10	9
P-5	19	17	—	—	2	3	21	20
P-4/3	35	38	—	—	5	5	40	43
P-2/1	13	12	—	—	2	2	15	14
Total	**80**	**79**	**—**	**—**	**11**	**12**	**91**	**91**
General Service category								
Principal level	7	12	—	—	—	—	7	12
Other levels	58	51	—	—	7	6	65	57
Total	**65**	**63**	**—**	**—**	**7**	**6**	**72**	**69**
Grand total	**145**	**142**	**—**	**—**	**18**	**18**	**163**	**160**

A. Policy-making organs

1. International Law Commission

Table 6.4 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Non-staff compensation	195.6	232.0	—	—	232.0	—	232.0
Travel	1 711.7	1 701.1	(82.0)	(4.8)	1 619.1	(7.2)	1 611.9
Contractual services	49.5	11.7	17.6	150.4	29.3	1.7	31.0
Total	**1 956.8**	**1 944.8**	**(64.4)**	**(3.3)**	**1 880.4**	**(5.5)**	**1 874.9**

Activities

6.12 The International Law Commission was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 174 (II) of 21 November 1947. The Commission has as its objective the promotion of the progressive development of international law and its codification. It consists of 34 members who are persons of recognized competence in international law. Unless otherwise decided by the General Assembly, the Commission meets annually for 12 weeks and reports to the Assembly, which provides guidance to the Commission on its programme of work. For 1997, the General Assembly in paragraph 12 of its resolution 51/160 of 16 December 1996 decided that the Commission should meet for 10 weeks. The Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs provides substantive servicing for the Commission.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Non-staff compensation

6.13 The estimated requirements of $232,000 would provide for honoraria of the Chairman and 32 members of the Commission, one member being excluded from accepting the payment by national legislation, and additional amounts payable to 6 special rapporteurs, at rates set by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/218 of 17 December 1980.

Travel

6.14 The estimated requirements of $1,619,100 relate to the travel and subsistence allowance of the members of the Commission ($1,403,300) and of the Legal Counsel and six staff members from the Codification Division to service the meetings of the Commission at Geneva ($215,800). The provision would cover the costs of (a) attendance by the Chairman and 33 members at the annual session at Geneva, which, in the light of the latest decision by the General Assembly, is estimated at 10 weeks; (b) attendance by the Chairman at the regular sessions of the Assembly during consideration of the Commission's reports; and (c) attendance by the Chairman or another representative of the Commission at the sessions of the four regional legal intergovernmental bodies (two weeks each) with which the Commission, pursuant to its statute, has established links of cooperation.

6.15 At its 1997 session, the Commission will consider whether it will have a split session (five weeks in Geneva and five weeks in New York). Such a split session would affect the cost only marginally.

Contractual services

6.16 The provision of $29,300 would provide for the external printing costs of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*.

2. United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

Table 6.5 **Summary by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Travel	112.4	151.6	(0.1)	—	151.5	2.7	154.2
Contractual services	215.7	190.6	—	—	190.6	2.8	193.4
Total	**328.1**	**342.2**	**(0.1)**	**—**	**342.1**	**5.5**	**347.6**

Overview

6.17 UNCITRAL, consisting of 36 Member States, is charged by the General Assembly in its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966 with the development of the progressive unification and harmonization of international trade law, which corresponds to subprogramme 5. The Commission carries out its tasks with the assistance of the International Trade Law Branch as its secretariat in one annual meeting of varying duration of up to 6 weeks in length, but usually of 3 or 4 weeks duration, and in working group meetings on specialized topics of up to a total of 12 weeks total duration per year.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Travel

6.18 The estimated requirements of $151,500 relate to attendance by the Chairman of UNCITRAL at meetings of the Sixth Committee during its consideration of the report of the Commission and travel of staff from Vienna to provide substantive and technical service of one session of UNCITRAL in New York, of six working groups outside Vienna and to service two sessions of the Sixth Committee in New York, as well as the Legal Counsel's travel to one session of UNCITRAL in Vienna.

Contractual services

6.19 Estimated requirements of $190,600 relate to the external printing costs of volumes XXVIII and XXIX of the *Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law*, as well as the reprinting of previously published texts.

3. United Nations Administrative Tribunal (including its secretariat)

Table 6.6 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	354.6	358.6	5.1	1.4	363.7	23.1	386.8
Other staff costs	51.1	2.4	13.1	545.8	15.5	0.9	16.4
Non-staff compensation	46.0	46.0	—	—	46.0	—	46.0
Consultants and experts	—	—	40.3	—	40.3	2.4	42.7
Travel	438.6	433.1	31.0	7.1	464.1	27.8	491.9
Contractual services	67.2	42.2	58.5	138.6	100.7	6.0	106.7
General operating expenses	5.9	5.2	(2.4)	(46.1)	2.8	0.2	3.0
Supplies and materials	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and equipment	3.7	—	6.1	—	6.1	0.4	6.5
Total	**968.1**	**887.5**	**151.7**	**17.0**	**1 039.2**	**60.8**	**1 100.0**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	1996-1997 estimates	Source of funds	1998-1999 estimates
		(a) Services in support of:	
		(i) United Nations organizations	
191.8	295.2	Support to extrabudgetary administrative structures	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
—	—	(c) Operational projects	—
191.8	**295.2**		**—**
1 159.9	**1 182.7**		**1 100.0**

Table 6.7 Post requirements

Organizational unit: United Nations Administrative Tribunal

	Established posts		Temporary posts					
	Regular budget		Regular budget		Extrabudgetary resources		Total	
	1996-1997	1998-1999	1996-1997	1998-1999	1996-1997	1998-1999	1996-1997	1998-1999
Professional category and above								
P-5	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-4/3	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Total	**1**	**1**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**—**	**2**	**1**
General Service category								
Other levels	1	1	—	—	1	—	2	1
Total	**1**	**1**	**—**	**—**	**1**	**—**	**2**	**1**
Grand total	**2**	**2**	**—**	**—**	**2[a]**	**—**	**4**	**2**

[a] Posts funded for a period of 15 months during the biennium 1996-1997.

6.20 The United Nations Administrative Tribunal is the independent organ competent to hear and pass judgement upon applications alleging non-observance of contracts of employment of staff members of the United Nations Secretariat or of their terms of appointment as well as applications alleging non-observance of the regulations and rules of UNJSPF, arising out of decisions by the Fund. The Tribunal was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 351 A (IV) of 24 November 1949. It is composed of seven members, no two of whom may be nationals of the same State, who are appointed by the Assembly initially for three years and may be reappointed. The competence of the Tribunal extends to the secretariats of the associated programmes that are financed from voluntary contributions, such as UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR and UNRWA. Under article 14 of the statute, the competence of the Tribunal has also been extended to IMO and ICAO.

6.21 The Secretariat provides substantive, technical and administrative servicing of the sessions of the Tribunal, including legal research and analysis of precedents; preparation of draft summaries of facts and contentions of parties for judgements to be rendered by the Tribunal; analysis and research of documentation relevant to cases on appeal to the Tribunal; consultations with administrations of subsidiary organs of the United Nations, the secretariat of UNJSPF and the administrations of the specialized agencies subject to the jurisdiction of the Tribunal (ICAO and IMO); and conducting the external relations of the Tribunal,

including its relations with the secretariat of ILO. During the biennium the Secretariat will also publish the recurrent publication *Judgements of the Administrative Tribunal*, volumes XIII and XIV, each in English and French.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

6.22 The estimated requirements of $363,700 would provide for the continuation of one P-5 post and one General Service post. The positive growth of $5,100 reflects the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Other staff costs

6.23 The resource requirements of $15,500 under this heading would provide for overtime to assist the Tribunal in reducing the current backlog and for temporary assistance with respect to the servicing of the sessions of the Tribunal at Headquarters.

Non-staff compensation

6.24 Provision of $46,000 is for payment of honoraria to members of the Tribunal at the rates set by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/218.

Consultants and experts

6.25 The estimated requirements of $40,300 will enable the Executive Secretary to continue the updating in book form of the Tribunal's case law and to ensure preparation and publication of the *Judgements of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal*.

Travel

6.26 The provision of $464,100 relates to requirements for travel in connection with the attendance of seven members of the Tribunal at two sessions to be held in New York and two at Geneva and to travel of four staff members to service two meetings at Geneva.

Contractual services

6.27 The estimated requirements of $100,700 under this heading would provide for the cost of external printing of volumes XIII and XIV of the *Judgements of the Administrative Tribunal* in English and in French ($40,400) and for database acquisition and rental, and usage fees for the computerized index of case law of the Administrative Tribunals of the United Nations and ILO (LEXIS) ($60,300).

General operating expenses

6.28 The estimated requirements of $2,800 relate to maintenance of office automation equipment.

Equipment

6.29 A provision of $6,100 is proposed for acquisition of office automation equipment.

B. Programme of work

Subprogramme 1
Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services to the United Nations as a whole

Table 6.8 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	3 270.4	2 549.2	142.6	5.5	2 691.8	169.1	2 860.9
Other staff costs	12.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Consultants and experts	—	—	40.3	—	40.3	2.4	42.7
Travel	31.1	52.7	12.6	23.9	65.3	4.0	69.3
Contractual services	8.0	0.1	(0.1)	(100.0)	—	—	—
General operating expenses	113.8	24.0	(2.8)	(11.6)	21.2	1.2	22.4
Hospitality	1.6	6.6	(0.6)	(9.0)	6.0	0.4	6.4
Supplies and materials	3.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and equipment	32.5	17.8	14.8	83.1	32.6	1.9	34.5
Total	**3 473.9**	**2 650.4**	**206.8**	**7.8**	**2 857.2**	**179.0**	**3 036.2**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
		(i) United Nations organizations	
706.4	783.7	Support to extrabudgetary administrative structures	728.6
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
		(b) Substantive activities	
699.2	—	Trust Fund for the Commission of Experts established pursuant to Security Council resolution 780 (1992)	—
—	500.0	Trust Fund to Assist States in Judicial Settlement of Disputes through the International Court of Justice	—
—	—	(c) Operational projects	—
1 405.6	**1 283.7**	**Total**	**728.6**
4 879.5	**3 934.1**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**3 764.8**

Table 6.9 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Office of the Legal Counsel

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
USG	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-2	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1
D-1	2	1	—	—	—	1	2	2
P-5	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
P-4/3	2	2	—	—	1	1	3	3
P-2/1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total	**8**	**8**	**—**	**—**	**2**	**2**	**10**	**10**
General Service category								
Principal level	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Other levels	5	5	—	—	2	2	7	7
Total	**6**	**6**	**—**	**—**	**2**	**2**	**8**	**8**
Grand total	**14**	**14**	**—**	**—**	**4***	**4***	**18**	**18**

* Posts funded from support to extrabudgetary administrative structures.

6.30 The Office of the Legal Counsel is responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme as well as the overall direction, supervision and management of all legal activities under this Section.

6.31 The principal orientation of this subprogramme will continue to be the legal aspects of the activities of the principal decision-making organs of the United Nations in particular the peacekeeping and other operations, missions and political activities of the Organization as well as the good offices missions of the Secretary-General. In addition to sustaining the evolution of legal arrangements in support of the United Nations efforts to maintain international peace and security, the activities of the subprogramme involve the interpretation of the Charter, resolutions and regulations of the United Nations, international agreements and questions of public international law, in particular questions on the use of force and criminal and third-party liability.

6.32 Another objective of this subprogramme is to assist the meetings of principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and their cycle of conferences by providing legal services and advice on constitutional and procedural and credentials matters.

6.33 The subprogramme also provides legal advice to the Organization to ensure compliance with relevant United Nations resolutions, decisions, rules and regulations as regards the administration of the International Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

6.34 In addition, the subprogramme negotiates and finalizes agreements for the United Nations and its subsidiary organs, including the separately funded funds and programmes; the establishment of institutional and legal arrangements for cooperation among and with intergovernmental and other international organizations and on the legal arrangements regulating the status, privileges and immunities and activities of United Nations related offices in the territories of host Governments.

Activities

6.35 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Substantive activities*

(i) Maintenance of international peace and security and the good offices, fact-finding and other special missions, including emergency and humanitarian relief services, of the Secretary-General

a. Ensuring that the necessary and appropriate legal regimes and mandates are established for all peacekeeping operations and various good offices and other missions undertaken by the United Nations;

b. Participation in the negotiation of legal instruments with parties concerned on such legal regimes and mandates, including status-of-forces agreements, status-of-mission agreements, agreements with contributing States and cooperation agreements with regional organizations;

c. Provision of legal advice to operationally responsible Secretariat units at Headquarters, offices established away from Headquarters, and legal officers or liaison officers assigned to field missions;

d. Implementation of specific tasks, and preparation of reports or analyses, of a legal nature requested by the Security Council or its subsidiary organs in the field of international peace and security;

e. Advice to the Security Council and its subsidiary organs on legal ramifications and implementation of resolutions and decisions relating to international peace and security;

(ii) Settlement of disputes

a. Maintaining liaison with the International Court of Justice and discharging the legal responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Statute of the Court, including the preparation of legal statements and the transmission of notices relating to judicial proceedings;

b. Representation of the Secretary-General at judicial proceedings, including those of the International Court of Justice;

c. Negotiations or other procedures for the settlement of disputes of a public international law character involving the Organization;

d. Formulation of statements of public international law and study and analysis of specific legal disputes for the Secretary-General and United Nations organs and subsidiary organs and in response to inquiries concerning public international law from Governments;

(iii) Promotion of legal instruments

a. Preparation, negotiation and finalization of international agreements, constitutive instruments, and other legal instruments required for the conduct of institutional or operational activities carried out by the United Nations, its organs and subsidiary organs, including UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA, in cooperation with Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other international institutions;

b. Promote and ensure respect for Articles 104 and 105 of the Charter, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, the headquarters agreements with the United States of America and other host Governments and other legal instruments;

(b) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings

a. Representation of the Secretary-General and the Legal Counsel at meetings and conferences convened by the United Nations or sponsored by Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other international institutions;

b. Provision of legal advice, studies and analysis on specific legal issues of a public international law nature as well as questions relating to the status and scope of participation of the members and observers of the intergovernmental organs of the United Nations;

c. Handling of questions relating to the credentials of representatives and representation in the United Nations, its organs and subsidiary organs and United Nations meetings and conferences;

d. Performance of the legal responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Statute of the International Court of Justice with regard to regular and casual elections of members of the Court in the General Assembly and the Security Council;

(ii) Procedural servicing of meetings

a. Provision of oral or written advice on the interpretation and application of rules of procedures of the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations including their meetings and conferences and their preparatory bodies;

b. Provision of oral and written advice to the Security Council on the interpretation and application of the statutes and rules of procedure and evidence of the International Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda;

c. Review and preparation of draft rules of procedure for United Nations organs, subsidiary organs and conferences;

d. Overseeing and supervising elections in and to the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations, including the International Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda;

(iii) Other services provided

a. Provision of secretariat services to organs and bodies dealing with subject matters falling within the competence of the Office of the Legal Counsel, such as the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly, the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, and, as appropriate, ad hoc working groups of the Sixth Committee on matters falling within the competence of the Office of the Legal Counsel;

b. Preparation of notes and statements for the Chairmen, assistance to the bureaux in organizing their work, analysis and clarification of legal issues involved and preparation of reports and documents;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) International cooperation

a. Legal advice on questions relating to the interpretation and application of the Charter of the United Nations and other constitutive instruments, multilateral or bilateral treaties and agreements, United Nations resolutions, decisions, regulations and rules, and general questions of public international law, so as to ensure uniform and consistent practice of the law;

b. Advice on legal questions concerning privileges and immunities and the legal status of the Organization arising from activities of the United Nations, its organs and subsidiary organs including UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA in the territories of States, and the legal

relationship with the Member States, observer States, intergovernmental and regional organizations and other international entities;

(ii) Inter-agency coordination and liaison

a. Coordination of interdepartmental activities, liaison with organs of the United Nations dealing with legal matters, offices established away from Headquarters, legal advisers or liaison officers assigned to field missions or other Secretariat units;

b. Cooperation with and coordination of institutional arrangements for the specialized and related agencies and with other international and national organizations dealing with matters of common concern;

c. Representation at, and convening of, meetings with legal liaison officers and legal advisers of the United Nations system;

(d) *Technical cooperation*

(i) Advisory services at the request of Governments

a. Assistance to States, including through the Trust Fund to Assist States in the Judicial Settlement of Disputes through the International Court of Justice, in settling their legal disputes through the Court, including application of the Statute, servicing the Panel of Experts and reporting to the Secretary-General and the General Assembly;

b. Formulation of statements of public international law and the study and analysis of specific legal disputes in response to questions from Governments and missions of Governments;

(ii) Group training, including seminars, workshops and fellowships

a. Presentation of papers and participation in meetings, symposia and conferences sponsored by United Nations organs, Governments, professional societies or international organizations on current or constitutional legal issues relating to the functions of the United Nations;

b. Provision of legal expertise and resource persons to training courses sponsored by Governments or international institutions for diplomats on subjects falling within the competence of the Office;

(iii) Dissemination and wider appreciation of international law

Formulation of legal statements in response to questions of public international law from intergovernmental and regional organizations, international and academic institutions, and the public.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

6.36 The estimated requirements of $2,691,800 would provide for the continuation of eight Professional and higher level posts and six General Service posts shown in table 6.9 above. The resource growth of $142,600 reflects the combined effect of the application of new standardized vacancy rates, and of the following reclassification proposal. The post for the Director and Deputy to the Legal Counsel is currently funded from extrabudgetary resources. To correct this anomaly, it is proposed to reclassify a D-1 regular budget post to the D-2 level to provide for the Deputy. In view of the functions of the post its funding would more appropriately be under the regular budget. A corollary to this proposal would be to downgrade an extrabudgetary post currently occupied by the Deputy, from the D-2 to the D-1 level.

Consultants and experts

6.37 An amount of $40,300 is requested to enable the Office to respond to unanticipated requests emanating from the intergovernmental process.

Travel

6.38 The resources of $65,300 requested relate to travel of the Legal Counsel and other senior legal officers undertaken at the request of the Secretary-General for consultations with the regional commissions, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations, and in connection with peacekeeping missions and United Nations meetings held away from Headquarters.

General operating expenses

6.39 The estimate of $21,200 relates to the maintenance costs of office automation equipment.

Hospitality

6.40 Resources of $6,000 relate to the cost of official functions.

Furniture and equipment

6.41 A provision of $32,600 is proposed for costs relating to acquisition and replacement of office automation equipment and computer software.

Subprogramme 2
General legal services to United Nations organs and programmes

Table 6.10 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	2 414.3	3 226.0	241.9	7.4	3 467.9	227.7	3 695.6
Other staff costs	35.0	30.4	(8.2)	(26.9)	22.2	1.3	23.5
Consultants and experts	—	49.2	0.9	1.8	50.1	3.0	53.1
Travel	15.8	8.4	3.6	42.8	12.0	0.7	12.7
Contractual services	94.9	100.7	32.2	31.9	132.9	7.9	140.8
General operating expenses	6.3	25.5	2.6	10.1	28.1	1.8	29.9
Supplies and materials	12.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and equipment	40.9	31.9	31.5	98.7	63.4	3.8	67.2
Total	**2 619.7**	**3 472.1**	**304.5**	**8.7**	**3 776.6**	**246.2**	**4 022.8**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
		(i) United Nations organizations	
1 067.0	1 399.0	Support to extrabudgetary administrative structures	2 001.4
		(ii) Extrabudgetary programmes	
360.6	688.4	Peacekeeping operations	768.3
—	—	(b) Substantive activities	—
—	—	(c) Operational projects	—
1 427.6	**2 087.4**	**Total**	**2 769.7**
4 047.3	**5 559.5**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**6 792.5**

Table 6.11 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: General Legal Division

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-1	1	1	—	—	1	1	2	2
P-5	4	4	—	—	2	3	6	7
P-4/3	6	6	—	—	3	4	9	10
P-2/1	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	2
Total	**12**	**12**	**—**	**—**	**8**	**10**	**20**	**22**
General Service category								
Other levels	5	6	—	—	4	4	9	10
Total	**5**	**6**	**—**	**—**	**4**	**4**	**9**	**10**
Grand total	**17**	**18**	**—**	**—**	**12[a]**	**14[b]**	**29**	**32**

[a] Includes nine posts funded from support to extrabudgetary administrative structures (one D-1, one P-5, one P-3, two P-2 and four General Service); and three posts funded from the support account for the United Nations peacekeeping operations (one P-5, one P-4 and one P-3).

[b] Includes nine posts funded from support to extrabudgetary administrative structures (one D-1, one P-5, one P-3, two P-2 and four General Service); and five posts funded from the support account for the United Nations peacekeeping operations (two P-5, two P-4 and one P-3).

6.42 The subprogramme will be implemented by the General Legal Division.

6.43 The objective of the subprogramme is to provide a wide range of legal services and assistance in support of the operations and activities of the Organization, including all Secretariat units and offices at Headquarters; other United Nations offices away from Headquarters; peacekeeping, observer and humanitarian missions; and separately administered and funded, subsidiary organs of the United Nations (such as UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA) to ensure effective and efficient operations and activities as well as to minimize risk of loss and financial liability and to ensure compliance with the resolutions as well as regulations, rules and other administrative issuances of the United Nations.

6.44 In order to effectively and efficiently manage the wide variety of legal services required by as well as the heavy caseload generated by the Organization, the activities of the Division have been divided into four categories, or clusters: (a) administration and management; (b) substantial contracts and procurement; (c) institutional support; and (d) peacekeeping operations support.

6.45 During the biennium, the focus of the Division will be on:

(a) Assisting in the implementation of the new Code of Conduct for staff, and assisting the Organization in developing and implementing proposals for reform of the Organization;

(b) Assisting the Organization in implementing proposals to reform the ways in which it procures goods and services;

(c) Assisting the separately-funded subsidiary organs in developing and implementing policy relating to national execution of projects and programmes for development assistance; and the generation of resources by the United Nations and its subsidiary organs, including the implications for the use of the name and emblem of the United Nations as it relates to such bodies;

(d) Preparing, in conjunction with the Office of the Legal Counsel, a study on limitation of liability for peacekeeping operations;

(e) Assisting the Organization in the winding up of various peacekeeping operations, including disposition of assets and resolution of claims by States and private entities.

6.46 For the biennium 1998-1999, five Professional and four General Service posts in the Division would be funded from support to extrabudgetary administrative structures and five Professional posts from the support account for peacekeeping operations. In order to effectively and efficiently meet the heavy and varied demands of the United Nations for legal services provided under this subprogramme, which requires a range of expertise, all attorneys of the Division, whether funded from the regular budget of the United Nations, from peacekeeping assessments or from other extrabudgetary resources, are treated as an integral part of the Division. Staff of the Division assigned to address issues relating to any one cluster of issues are expected to devote up to 50 per cent of their time, as needed and as appropriate, to the work of the other clusters.

Activities

6.47 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*. Headquarters liaison services to the secretariat of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) In consultation with the Office of the Legal Counsel, providing assistance relating to agreements with Member States for the contribution of personnel as well as the provision of materials and equipment for peacekeeping, observer, humanitarian, good-offices, emergency and other special missions, operations and activities;

(ii) Providing assistance relating to procurement of supplies and services for peacekeeping, observer, humanitarian, good-offices, emergency and other special missions through:

a. Arrangements concerning air and sea charters and related matters;

b. Contracts for provision of equipment, supplies and other logistical support as well as construction contracts;

c. Contracts for demining or similar operations;

d. Agreements for the disposition of assets at mission termination;

e. Settlement of contractual and real property disputes as well as claims for property damage, personal injury and death;

f. Representation of the Organization before judicial and arbitral bodies;

(iii) Advice on the legislative arrangements (e.g., regulations and rules, including the Field Administration Handbook) governing staff serving in such missions and operations;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) In consultation with the Office of the Legal Counsel, providing support to the Secretariat and to the separately funded, subsidiary organs of the United Nations regarding basic agreements governing the terms and conditions of operational activities for development assistance through:

a. Assistance on the institutional and legal modalities for cooperation with specialized agencies of the United Nations system, with Governments and other entities involved in the implementation of development activities, programmes and projects;

b. Preparation of model agreements for establishing field offices;

(ii) Providing support for the operational activities of the Secretariat and the separately funded, subsidiary organs in regard to development assistance relating, for example, to such issues as:

a. Commercial and other contractual arrangements, including for personnel and technical assistance;

b. Procurement activities for management of loans and grants by Governments, regional or international banks and other financial institutions;

c. Resolution of disputes and claims arising from such operational activities;

d. Fund-raising initiatives of the separately funded, subsidiary organs;

e. Representation of the Organization before judicial and arbitral bodies;

(d) *Administrative support services*

(i) Providing support to all Secretariat units with regard to the full range of the financial activities of the United Nations regarding matters such as:

a. The Organization's financial policies and procedures;

b. Operations and activities of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, including custody arrangements for the worldwide investment of the Fund's assets;

c. Settlement of third-party tort claims brought under the Organization's self-insurance and commercial liability insurance programmes;

d. Representation of the Organization before judicial and arbitral bodies;

(ii) Support for human resources management and the administration of justice for matters such as:

a. Personnel questions;

b. Revisions to the Staff Regulations and Rules;

c. Representation of the Secretary-General in cases brought under the statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

(iii) Support, for the Organization's procurement activities, property arrangements and other commercial activities regarding:

a. Procurement policies and procedures;

b. Bidding documents and substantial contracts for the procurement of goods, services and supplies;

c. Publications contracts with commercial presses and publishing houses;

d. Intellectual property issues;

e. Real property transactions and arrangements for the Organization and its field offices;

f. Commercial claims arising from the Organization's procurement activities;

g. Representation of the Organization before judicial and arbitral bodies;

(iv) General legal advice regarding the operations and activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, including:

a. Interpretation of the mandate of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, for example, in regard to the investigation of misconduct, waste of resources and abuse of authority;

b. Assistance to or representation of the Organization, as appropriate, in proceedings and prosecutions for the recovery of assets or for other restitutionary measures.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

6.48 The estimate of $3,467,900 would provide for the continuation of 12 Professional and higher level posts and 6 General Service posts, 1 of which is an additional General Service post redeployed from the Executive Office to provide the necessary support to the Division. The resource growth of $241,900 represents the combined effect of the application of new standard vacancy rates and the redeployment of one General Service post to the Service.

Other staff costs

6.49 Estimated requirements of $22,200 relate to the continuing need to retain the services of additional lawyers during periods of peak workload, especially in cases of unforeseen mandates entrusted by the Security Council or the General Assembly to the Secretariat ($20,100); and overtime ($2,100).

Consultants and experts

6.50 The resources proposed under this heading ($50,100) relate to the cost of engaging outside counsel required in connection with activities for which special expertise is not available in the Secretariat, such as matters involving complex real estate transactions and taxation, complex commercial claims and intellectual property matters, all of which require interpretation of national law or representation before national courts or administrative bodies.

Travel

6.51 The estimated requirements of $12,000 would provide for travel required to ensure legal services and support to offices away from Headquarters for negotiation and preparation of claims and agreements; representation of the Organization in legal proceedings; orientation of outside counsel in connection with the interpretation of agreements and the resolution of disputes; and the representation of the Secretary-General before the United Nations Administrative Tribunal at its sessions at Geneva.

Contractual services

6.52 The estimate of $132,900 relates to ongoing cost of subscriptions and usage fees in connection with the WESTLAW and LEXIS legal database services, which provide access to domestic and international legal materials and the judgements of the Administrative Tribunal.

General operating expenses

6.53 The estimated requirements of $28,100 would provide for the maintenance of office automation equipment in the Division.

Furniture and equipment

6.54 The estimated requirements of $63,400 relate to the acquisition of office automation equipment and the upgrading and replacement of data-processing equipment used by the Division.

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Table 6.12 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	3 011.0	3 595.2	231.5	6.4	3 826.7	249.2	4 075.9
Other staff costs	35.8	5.3	1.5	28.3	6.8	0.4	7.2
Travel	10.9	17.1	(1.1)	(6.4)	16.0	1.0	17.0
Contractual services	136.0	27.0	199.6	739.2	226.6	13.5	240.1
General operating expenses	10.4	21.0	8.5	40.4	29.5	1.8	31.3
Supplies and materials	7.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and equipment	14.2	18.6	4.9	26.3	23.5	1.4	24.9
Grants and contributions	376.4	324.3	12.6	3.8	336.9	20.1	357.0
Total	**3 601.8**	**4 008.5**	**457.5**	**11.4**	**4 466.0**	**287.4**	**4 753.4**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
		(i) United Nations organizations	
—	—	Support to extrabudgetary administrative structures	—
		(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	
—	—	Peacekeeping operations	—
		(b) Substantive activities	
99.3	130.0	Trust Fund for the Seminar on International Law	130.0
0.5	9.0	Trust Fund for the Gilberto Amado Memorial Lecture	9.0
—	50.0	Trust Fund for the Least Developed Countries in the Work of the Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court and in the 1998 Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries	50.0
—	—	(c) Operational projects	—
99.8	**189.0**	**Total**	**189.0**
3 701.6	**4 197.5**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**4 942.4**

Table 6.13 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Codification Division

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-1	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
P-5	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
P-4/3	6	6	—	—	—	—	6	6
P-2/1	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
Total	**14**	**14**	—	—	—	—	**14**	**14**
General Service category								
Other levels	7	7	—	—	—	—	7	7
Total	**7**	**7**	—	—	—	—	**7**	**7**
Grand total	**21**	**21**	—	—	—	—	**21**	**21**

6.55 The subprogramme will be implemented by the Codification Division.

6.56 The activities will aim at: (a) promoting the acceptance of and respect for the principles of international law and encouraging the progressive development and codification of international law; (b) encouraging the dissemination and wider appreciation of international law; and (c) implementing decisions taken by organs and subsidiary organs in the field of public international law.

6.57 The first objective is to provide United Nations bodies dealing with international law (including the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly, the International Law Commission, codification conferences and special or ad hoc committees) with substantive support which include research and analytical studies on topics of international law, preparing background documentation, drafting reports, assistance in the conduct of proceedings, drafting of resolutions, decisions, amendments and proposals, and managing of meetings and informal consultations.

6.58 The second objective is to implement, administer and monitor the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, and to ensure the preparation and issuance of legal publications, including the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*, the *Legislative Series*, the *United Nations Reports of International Arbitral Awards*, and the proceedings of codification conferences. Efforts will also be made to have these publications available in electronic form for wider dissemination and use by delegations and the general public.

6.59 The General Assembly has requested in resolution 51/209 that special efforts be made to expedite the preparation and publication of *Supplements to the Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*. The Division is responsible for reviewing submissions for this publication. It should be noted, however, that such submissions are the responsibility of six separate departments/offices and that the assumption of the General Assembly was that the preparation and publication should be done within existing resources.

6.60 The third objective is to undertake implementation measures required pursuant to decisions taken by the relevant organs and subsidiary bodies pertaining to progressive development and codification of international law.

6.61 The draft texts prepared by the above-mentioned legal bodies will serve as bases for the elaboration by the General Assembly or by diplomatic conferences of such legal instruments as conventions, declarations, resolutions or guidelines, constituting important sources of international law.

6.62 The publications listed above are normally issued on a yearly basis.

6.63 Assistance in the form of fellowships, seminars and publications under this subprogramme will take into account the needs of developing countries.

Activities

6.64 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings

a. General Assembly and ad hoc subsidiary organs of the Sixth Committee

i. Sixth Committee of the General Assembly (two sessions, 70 meetings per session);

ii. Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (two sessions, 20 meetings per session);

iii. Preparatory Committee for the Establishment of an International Criminal Court (one session, 30 meetings);

iv. Ad Hoc Committee on the elaboration of legal instruments for the prevention of terrorist acts (one session, 30 meetings);

v. Advisory Committee of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law (two sessions, 20 meetings per session);

b. International Law Commission: two sessions, 84 meetings per session;

c. Diplomatic conferences

i. Conference on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court (one or two sessions, four to six weeks of meetings per session);

ii. International conference to consider the draft articles adopted by the International Law Commission on the Jurisdictional Immunity of States and their property (one session, 30 meetings);

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

a. Sixth Committee of the General Assembly

i. Report on the United Nations Decade of International Law (1999);

ii. Report on effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives (1998-1999);

iii. Report on the status of the protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts (1998-1999);

iv. Report on measures to eliminate international terrorism (1998-1999);

v. Report on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law (1998-1999);

vi. Reports on other subjects, as requested by the General Assembly;

vii. Reports of the Sixth Committee to the General Assembly and assistance to the Sixth Committee's Rapporteur;

b. The International Law Commission. Analytical studies and reports on the reservations to treaties; succession of States and impact on nationality; diplomatic protection; and unilateral acts of States;

c. Subsidiary organs of the Sixth Committee

i. Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization. Pre-session and in-session studies and documentation; draft reports of the Committee; assistance to the Rapporteur;

ii. Preparatory Committee for the Establishment of an International Criminal Court. Pre-session and in-session studies and documentation; draft reports of the Committee; assistance to the Rapporteur;

iii. Ad Hoc Committee on the elaboration of legal instruments for the prevention of terrorist acts. Pre-session and in-session studies and documentation; draft reports of the Committee; assistance to the Rapporteur;

iv. Working Group on the United Nations Decade of International Law. In-session studies and documentation;

v. Working Group on the Implementation of Charter Provisions relating to Assistance to Third States Affected by the Application of Sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter. In-session studies and documentation;

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) Promotion of appropriate legal instruments, including development of guidelines and standards

a. Convention on the non-navigational uses of international watercourses;

b. Convention on the establishment of an international criminal court;

c. Legal instruments for the prevention of terrorist acts;

d. Programme for the final term (1997-1999) of the United Nations Decade of International Law;

(ii) Recurrent publications

a. *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* (General Assembly resolution 174/II). Volume II, part I, 1996; volume II, part II, 1996; volume I, 1997; volume II, part I, 1997; volume II, part II, 1997;

b. *United Nations Juridical Yearbook* (General Assembly resolutions 814 (XVIII), 2479 (XXIII), 3006 (XXVII) and 35/29). Volume 1989; volume 1995; cumulative index; volume 1996; and volume 1997;

c. *Legislative Series* (General Assembly resolution 174/11). Volumes 23 and 24;

d. *Reports of International Arbitral Awards*. Volume XXII;

e. *Supplements* to the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*;

(iii) Non-recurrent publications. Proceedings of the Conference on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court: volume I (summary records); and volume II (proposals, reports and other documents);

(iv) Seminars. Group training, including seminars and workshops and fellowships under the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law (General Assembly resolution 50/43);

(v) Electronic, audio and video issuances. Incorporation into electronic format for Internet dissemination of the following documents:

a. *United Nations Juridical Yearbook* (chap. VI on legal opinions);

b. *Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice*;

c. Weekly United Nations home page;

d. Report of the International Law Commission;

e. Establishment of an audio-visual library for disseminating audio and video tapes on international law topics for teaching purposes;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*. External relations

(i) Coordination, in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 49/50 of 9 December 1994, of activities undertaken in the framework of the United Nations Decade of International Law by international organizations and institutions working in the field of international law;

(ii) Participation of staff members in activities relating to progressive development and codification of international law sponsored by intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

6.65 The estimate of $3,826,700 would cover the cost of continuation of 14 Professional and higher level posts and 7 General Service posts. The resource growth of $231,500 reflects the effect of the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Other staff costs

6.66 A provision of $6,800 is proposed for overtime requirements within the Codification Division.

Travel

6.67 The estimated requirements of $16,000 relate to attendance by staff at meetings and conferences of United Nations organs and other bodies held away from Headquarters and meetings of regional bodies with which the International Law Commission has established formal links. The meetings and conferences at locations other than Headquarters are mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution on the statute of the Commission (resolution 174 (II) of 21 November 1947).

Contractual services

6.68 The estimated requirements of $226,600 relate to the external printing costs of two volumes of the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*, two volumes of the *Legislative Series*, and one volume of the *United Nations Reports of International Arbitral Awards*. Printing of *Supplements* to the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* is also foreseen.

General operating expenses

6.69 An estimate of $29,500 would provide for the maintenance of office automation equipment.

Furniture and equipment

6.70 Resource requirements in the amount of $23,500 are proposed to provide for the acquisition of office automation equipment.

Grants and contributions

6.71 Requirements of $336,900 are estimated for the cost of travel and stipends for approximately 32 fellowships to participants from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in connection with the United Nations/UNITAR Fellowship Programme in International Law at Geneva.

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Table 6.14 Summary by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	7 075.9	5 987.6	(1 180.9)	(19.7)	4 806.7	312.0	5 118.7
Other staff costs	37.8	0.1	3.9	—	4.0	0.2	4.2
Consultants and experts	104.4	202.9	(30.7)	(15.1)	172.2	10.4	182.6
Travel	165.9	155.6	(52.4)	(33.6)	103.2	6.3	109.5
Contractual services	3.7	29.3	25.1	85.6	54.4	3.3	57.7
General operating expenses	587.4	0.4	41.7	—	42.1	2.5	44.6
Hospitality	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Supplies and materials	49.2	16.5	—	—	16.5	0.9	17.4
Furniture and equipment	145.8	200.8	(134.6)	(67.0)	66.2	3.9	70.1
Total	**8 171.9**	**6 593.2**	**(1 327.9)**	**(20.1)**	**5 265.3**	**339.5**	**5 604.8**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
		(b) Substantive activities	
31.9	33.0	Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law — Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship	40.0
100.2	—	Trust Fund for Supporting Developing Countries Participating in the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks	—
90.2	—	Special Account for the Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for Pioneer Investors' Application Fees	—
—	—	(c) Operational projects	—
222.3	**33.0**	**Total**	**40.0**
8 394.2	**6 626.2**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**5 644.8**

Table 6.15 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-1	3	2	—	—	—	—	3	2
P-5	6	4	—	—	—	—	6	4
P-4/3	8	7	—	—	—	—	8	7
P-2/1	5	3	—	—	—	—	5	3
Total	**23**	**17**	—	—	—	—	**23**	**17**
General Service category								
Other levels	13	10	—	—	—	—	13	10
Total	**13**	**10**	—	—	—	—	**13**	**10**
Grand total	**36**	**27**	—	—	—	—	**36**	**27**

6.72 The subprogramme will be implemented by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

6.73 The overall objective of the subprogramme is to foster international peace and security through strengthening the international legal order for the seas and oceans established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The central thrust of the subprogramme is the promotion of the Convention and the related agreements by facilitating their understanding, their widest possible acceptance, their uniform and consistent application and their effective implementation, as well as assisting States in their efforts to derive full practical benefits from the international legal regime, and in the enjoyment of their rights and the fulfilment of their obligations arising therefrom.

6.74 With the entry into force of the Convention, the course of action during the biennium and in the medium term has been defined by the General Assembly in its resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 50/23 of 5 December 1995 and 51/34 of 10 December 1996. Pursuant to the mandate provided by the Assembly, the focus and priorities of the activities will be on:

(a) Provision of coordinated information, advice and assistance to States and intergovernmental bodies through monitoring, review and analysis of developments relating to the law of the sea and ocean affairs, placing emphasis on State practice, international juridical decisions and international treaties and other legal instruments, as well as on economic and technical issues;

(b) Provision of services to States, including depository and advisory services, as well as training and education in their efforts to implement the Convention and to develop and strengthen capabilities and infrastructures in order to apply the framework provided by the Convention for national, subregional, regional and global action;

(c) Support to organizations within and outside the United Nations system in their marine-related activities with a view to securing consistency with the international legal regime and promoting a concerted approach to the application and implementation of the Convention, especially in the formulation of new legal instruments and programmes in marine-related matters within their respective areas of competence;

(d) Servicing the Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf;

(e) Reporting on developments related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs and emerging issues to the General Assembly, the Meeting of States Parties and competent international organizations.

6.75 The planned activities are expected to contribute to more States and entities becoming parties to the Convention and the related agreements, to the development of national and international legal instruments related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs consistent with the provisions of the Convention; peaceful delimitation of maritime zones; and the development of projects and programmes in the marine sector at the national, subregional, regional and global levels consistent with the international legal regime. The activities will also respond to the expressed need of the international community for the annual consideration, review and evaluation of continuing developments related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs.

Activities

6.76 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) General Assembly

a. Parliamentary documentation

i. Developments pertaining to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other developments and emerging issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea (1998) (1999);

ii. Specific topics of current interest (1998) (1999);

iii. Developments pertaining to the Agreement relating to the implementation of the provisions of the Convention on the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks (1999);

iv. Drift-net fishing; unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction; and fisheries by-catch and discards, including coordinated reporting on all major fisheries-related activities and instruments (1999);

(ii) Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

a. Substantive servicing

i. Plenary (1998), 40 meetings;

ii. Plenary (1999), 40 meetings;

b. Parliamentary documentation

i. As required by article 319 of the Convention, reports on issues of a general nature that have arisen with respect to the Convention (1998) (1999);

ii. Reports on the work of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (1998) (1999);

iii. Priority topics selected by the Meeting of States Parties (1998) (1999);

iv. Reports of the Meeting of States Parties on its eighth and ninth sessions (1998);

v. Reports of the Meeting of States Parties on its tenth and eleventh sessions (1999);

vi. Background papers and conference room papers, as mandated (1998) (1999);

(iii) Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

a. Substantive servicing

i. Plenary and working groups (1998), 60 meetings;

ii. Plenary and working groups (1999), 60 meetings;

b. Parliamentary documentation

i. Priority topics selected by the Commission (1998) (1999);

ii. Reports of the Commission on its third, fourth and fifth sessions (1998);

iii. Reports of the Commission on its sixth, seventh and eighth sessions (1999);

iv. Background papers and conference room papers, as mandated (1998) (1999);

c. Other services provided

i. Ad hoc expert groups. Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP); plenary (1998), one session; Working Group (1998) one session; plenary (1999), one session; Working Group (1999), one session; Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts Advisory Board; plenary (1998), one session; plenary (1999), one session;

ii. Expert group meeting on delimitation of maritime boundaries (1998);

iii. Depository services. As required by the Convention, maintenance and further development of the facilities for the deposit by States of charts and geographical coordinates concerning baselines and limits of national maritime zones, and of the system for their recording, including a cartographic system; and as required, giving due publicity to such information;

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) Promotion of legal instruments. Promotion of the universal acceptance of the Convention and the related Agreements, their uniform and consistent application and their effective implementation through, among other means:

a. Monitoring the acceptance of the Convention and the related Agreements and disseminating information thereon;

b. Collecting, analysing, and disseminating information on State practice, including national legislation, bilateral and multilateral treaties, as well as decisions of international judicial bodies, related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

c. Collecting, analysing and disseminating information on integrated management practices of ocean affairs requisite for the effective implementation of the Convention in order to realize optimal benefits under it;

d. Operating a specialized database on the limits of the continental shelf, integrating, *inter alia,* scientific and technical data in the fields of marine geology, geophysics, geochemistry and hydrography pertaining to the application of the provisions of the Convention related to the continental shelf, and disseminating information therefrom;

e. Providing coordinated information and advice on marine legislation and marine policy as well as management, economic, technological and scientific aspects of the implementation of the Convention and the related agreements through, *inter alia,* a centralized system of information;

f. Supporting the process of establishing guidelines and procedures for the implementation of the provisions of the Convention;

(ii) Recurrent publications

a. *Law of the Sea Bulletin* (1998 — three issues) (1999 — three issues);

b. *Practice of States* (1998) (1999);

c. *Bibliography of the Law of the Sea* (1998) (1999);

d. Handbooks. Effective implementation of the comprehensive Convention on the Law of the Sea — Requisite management prospectives (1998); Delimitation of maritime boundaries (1999);

e. Reports of the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (1998) (1999);

(iii) Non-recurrent publications. Updated list of multilateral treaties related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs (1998);

(iv) Press releases. Meetings of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, sessions of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, award of Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Fellowship and other topics of interest (1998 — 12 press releases) (1999 — 12 press releases);

(v) Technical material

a. Further development of Oceans and Law of the Sea (computerized information system);

i. Internet World Wide Web home page on the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

ii. Internet Gopher menu on the law of the sea;

iii. Provision of specialized data and information products and services in computer-generated formats on the status of the Convention and the related Agreements; bilateral and multilateral treaties and other legal instruments; national legislation; charts and geographical coordinates of maritime zones; the limits of the continental shelf; and national maritime profile;

b. Law of the sea information circular (1998 — two issues) (1999 — two issues);

c. Newsletter on current developments in the law of the sea and ocean affairs (1998 — three issues) (1999 — three issues);

d. Special studies/reviews on selected emerging issues and persistent problems related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs, in cooperation with competent international organizations as required, e.g.:

i. Protection of marine environment from land-based activities (1998);

ii. Marine and coastal biodiversity (1998);

iii. Sensitive and protected marine areas (1999);

e. Abstracts for the inter-agency monthly publication *Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts* (1998 — three batches) (1999 — three batches);

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Participation in activities of intergovernmental bodies. Cooperation with intergovernmental bodies related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs, including support to the substantive servicing of meetings, contributions to parliamentary documentation, contributions to activities and participation in meetings, in particular, the International Seabed Authority, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, the Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea, conferences of parties to related conventions, e.g., the Convention on Biological Diversity, and regional and subregional bodies, e.g., Indian Ocean Marine Affairs Cooperation, the South Atlantic Zone of Peace and the South Pacific Commission;

(ii) Participation in activities of non-governmental organizations. Cooperation, including contributions to activities and participation in meetings of non-governmental organizations in matters related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

(iii) Participation in activities of funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system

a. Support to the servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies, including assistance in substantive servicing of meetings, contributions to parliamentary documentation and preparation of studies and information notes on issues related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

b. Legal research and analysis, and legal advice and services on the law of the sea and ocean affairs to units of the Secretariat, and funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system;

c. Advisory services to funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, on the implications of the Convention provisions for existing and proposed legal instruments and programmes in their specific areas of competence;

d. Interorganizational cooperation, including contributions to and participation in the activities and meetings of interorganizational bodies, in particular, in relation to chapter 17 of Agenda 21, Protection of the oceans, all kinds of seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, and coastal areas and the protection and rational use and development of their living resources, the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and of the Inter-secretariat Committee on Scientific Programmes Relating to Oceanography (ICSPRO);

(iv) Participation in the activities of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its subsidiary machinery. Interorganizational cooperation, including participation in meetings and contributions to coordination activities, within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas;

(d) *Conference services*

Library services. Provision of library services through the maintenance and development of the specialized reference collection and bibliographic database on the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

(e) *Technical cooperation*

(i) Advisory services to States

a. On issues related to the ratification of the Convention and the related agreements, their uniform and consistent application and effective implementation, including the impact of the entry into force of the Convention in the light of the rights and obligations of States arising therefrom;

b. On harmonizing national legislation with the provisions of the Convention and the drafting of rules and regulations to implement such legislation;

c. On issues related to the full realization of benefits by States under the Convention, including economic, technological, scientific and environmental issues;

(ii) Group training

a. Operation and further development of the training programme on the law of the sea and ocean affairs, including train-sea-coast (with support from UNDP):

i. Training of cadre of course developers (1998) (1999);

ii. Further development of a menu of training courses (1998) (1999);

iii. Assistance in strengthening national training institutions;

b. Assistance to seminars/workshops related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

c. Regular and ad hoc briefings on the law of the sea;

(iii) Fellowships. Award of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship (1998) (1999) and supervision of fellowship recipient (1998) (1999) through the operation of the Fellowship Programme;

(iv) Field projects. Project support in cooperation with funding agencies and in joint activities with other international organizations and institutions, where appropriate.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

6.77 The estimated requirements of $4,806,700 include provisions for 17 Professional and higher level posts and 10 General Service posts. The activities related to the establishment of two autonomous institutions created by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea were completed during the biennium 1996-1997. In addition, consequent to the entry into force of the Convention, the programme of work under the subprogramme was restructured to concentrate on the priority items mandated by the General Assembly with a view to assisting States in the effective implementation of the Convention and providing an overview of developments and issues related to oceans and the law of the sea. The reduction in posts is attributable to these two factors.

Other staff costs

6.78 A provision of $4,000 is proposed for overtime requirements.

Consultants and experts

6.79 Estimated requirements of $172,200 relate to specialized consultancy services not available in the Secretariat for preparation of material on specific topics related to the delimitation of maritime boundaries, technical aspects of the regime for the continental shelf, scientific aspects of the protection of marine environment, as well as data, information and management requirements for the effective implementation of the Convention ($98,900), and provision for an ad hoc expert group meeting on delimitation of maritime boundaries ($73,300).

Travel

6.80 The estimated requirements of $103,200 relate to travel of staff to the meetings of organizations of the United Nations system and other organizations. The decrease of $52,400 is attributable to the fact that the Division has completed its work related to the establishment of the institutions created by the Convention.

Contractual services

6.81 A provision of $54,400 would meet the cost of the recurrent and non-recurrent publications included in the programme of work ($29,300) and provide for subscription to database lines in the field of law of the sea and ocean affairs ($25,100).

General operating expenses

6.82 The estimate of $42,100 relates to maintenance of office automation equipment.

Supplies and materials

6.83 The provision of $16,500 would cover the cost of library books for the maintenance of the law of the sea reference collection. This collection is a central source of information for Member States, universities, legal practitioners and others.

Furniture and equipment

6.84 The estimated requirement of $66,200 would cover the cost of acquisition and replacement of office automation equipment.

Subprogramme 5
Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade

Table 6.16 **Summary by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	3 050.7	3 026.4	199.2	6.5	3 225.6	26.0	3 251.6
Other staff costs	8.2	8.8	—	—	8.8	0.2	9.0
Consultants and experts	39.1	110.3	70.3	63.7	180.6	2.9	183.5
Travel	58.3	69.8	—	—	69.8	1.3	71.1
General operating expenses	—	—	22.0	—	22.0	0.4	22.4
Furniture and equipment	58.2	27.2	—	—	27.2	0.4	27.6
Total	**3 214.5**	**3 242.5**	**291.5**	**8.9**	**3 534.0**	**31.2**	**3 565.2**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*1998-1999 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
—	—	(i) United Nations organizations	—
—	—	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	—
		(b) Substantive activities	
161.9	219.0	Trust Fund for the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Symposia	220.0
—	—	Voluntary Fund to grant travel assistance to developing countries members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	10.0
—	—	(c) Operational projects	—
161.9	**219.0**	**Total**	**230.0**
3 376.4	**3 461.5**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**3 795.2**

Table 6.17 Post requirements

Organizational unit: International Trade Law Branch

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
P-4/3	7	7	—	—	—	—	7	7
Total	**10**	**10**	—	—	—	—	**10**	**10**
General Service category								
Other levels	7	7	—	—	—	—	7	7
Total	**7**	**7**	—	—	—	—	**7**	**7**
Grand total	**17**	**17**	—	—	—	—	**17**	**17**

6.85 The subprogramme is implemented by the International Trade Law Branch, which acts as the secretariat of UNCITRAL.

6.86 The objective of the subprogramme is (a) to develop texts that facilitate international trade, assist in negotiating transactions and foster good practices; (b) to provide legislative assistance to Governments; (c) to coordinate work of international organizations active in the field of trade law; and (d) to promote uniform interpretation of harmonized texts on international trade law.

6.87 During the biennium the focus of the subprogramme will be on:

(a) Preparation of legal texts (conventions, model laws, model clauses, rules and legal guides) on: legal aspects of electronic commerce; private financing of public infrastructure projects; enhancement of availability of international credit through the use of security interests, assignment of trade receivables and cooperation in cross-border insolvency proceedings; maritime transport of goods; and efficient ways of solving international commercial disputes, all this bearing in mind the special needs of developing countries (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI) of 27 December 1966, sect. II, para. 8 (c) and repeatedly reconfirmed by the Assembly);

(b) Technical assistance to Governments regarding enactment of UNCITRAL texts (e.g., on settlement of disputes, public procurement, electronic commerce, international payments); advising non-governmental bodies, such as chambers of commerce and arbitration centres, on the preparation of standard rules; preparing drafts of guides to enactment for UNCITRAL legal texts; training of users of UNCITRAL texts; assisting universities in incorporating UNCITRAL texts into their curricula; and assisting States in dealing with questions arising after UNCITRAL texts have been adopted. The requests by Governments for these activities continue to rise because of the growing awareness of the work of UNCITRAL, entry into effect of its various legal texts, particularly urgent need for modernizing trade laws in developing and transition States;

(c) Coordination of activities of the numerous organizations that are preparing texts on international trade law (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 8 (a));

(d) The project entitled "Case Law on UNCITRAL Texts (CLOUT)" which consists of (i) collecting, in cooperation with National Correspondents appointed by Governments, court and arbitral decisions on conventions and model laws of the Commission; (ii) preparing abstracts of those decisions; (iii) publishing the abstracts in the languages of the Organization; (iv) maintaining efficient

dissemination channels for the abstracts and decisions; and (v) preparing, as appropriate, comments, indices or thesauri on the decisions.

Activities

6.88 During the 1998-1999 biennium the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental bodies: preparation of texts*

(i) UNCITRAL

a. Parliamentary documentation

i. *Official Records of the General Assembly* (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 10): report of the Commission on the work of its thirty-first and thirty-second sessions in 1998 and 1999;

ii. Up to 12 reports to the Commission by its intergovernmental working groups; 8 substantive reports on various subjects to be discussed by the Commission as requested by the Commission; a report each year on the following: training and assistance, status and promotion of UNCITRAL texts, coordination of work of other organizations, bibliography of books and articles relating to the work of UNCITRAL; and up to 40 conference room papers prepared during the two sessions of UNCITRAL (mandate: annual decisions by the Commission);

b. Substantive servicing

i. Three meetings of the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly (1998);

ii. Three meetings of the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly (1999);

iii. Thirty meetings of UNCITRAL (1998);

iv. Thirty meetings of UNCITRAL (1999);

(ii) Working Group on Electronic Commerce

a. Parliamentary documentation. Four substantive reports to be prepared in response to the request of the Working Group; up to 30 conference room papers on topics considered by the Working Group;

b. Substantive servicing. Sixty-four meetings of the Working Group;

(iii) Working Group on International Contract Practices

a. Parliamentary documentation. Four substantive reports to be prepared in response to the request of the Working Group; up to 30 conference room papers on topics considered by the Working Group;

b. Substantive servicing. Sixty-four meetings of the Working Group;

(iv) Working Group on Private Financing of Infrastructure Projects

a. Parliamentary documentation. Four substantive reports to be prepared in response to the request of the Working Group; up to 30 conference room papers on topics considered by the Working Group;

b. Substantive servicing. Sixty-four meetings of the Working Group;

(b) *Other services provided*

Ad hoc expert group meetings and related preparatory work

(i) Up to 48 ad hoc expert group meetings to consider documents to be submitted to the Commission and its working groups;

(ii) Preparation of substantive documentation to be considered by the ad hoc expert groups (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 11);

(c) *Other substantive activities*

(i) Maintenance of the system for collecting court and arbitral decisions on UNCITRAL texts ("Case Law on UNCITRAL Texts" (CLOUT)). Publication of abstracts of those decisions and monitoring of developments and trends in court and arbitration practice (600 court and arbitration cases) (General Assembly resolutions 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 8 (d); 49/55 and 50/47 and document A/43/17, paras. 98-109);

(ii) Recurrent publications. *Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law*, volume XXVIII, 1997 and volume XXIX, 1998 (General Assembly resolution 2502 (XXIV), paras. 8 and 9 and A/7618, paras. 161-167);

(iii) Non-recurrent publications

a. 1998 publications

i. Booklet on a United Nations convention on assignment in trade receivables (based on a General Assembly resolution to be adopted pursuant to the finalization of the convention and A/50/17, paras. 374-381);

ii. Implementation of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (A/51/17, paras. 238-243);

iii. Reprinting of UNCITRAL Notes on Organizing Arbitral Proceedings; UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules; UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration; United Nations Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods; and Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods;

b. 1999 publications

i. Case law on UNCITRAL Model Arbitration Law (A/49/17, paras. 202-207);

ii. Case law on the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (A/49/17, paras. 202-207);

iii. Uniform rules on the legal aspects of electronic commerce (A/51/17, paras. 209, 216-224);

iv. Legislative guide on private financing of public infrastructure projects (based on a General Assembly resolution to be adopted pursuant to the finalization of the guide and A/51/17, paras. 225-230);

v. Reprinting of UNCITRAL Conciliation Rules; United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, 1978 (Hamburg Rules); United Nations Convention on International Bills of Exchange and International Promissory Notes; and UNCITRAL Model Law on International Credit Transfers;

(iv) Lectures. Lectures to groups of practitioners, academics and law students at Vienna, as well as at other places as part of programmes organized by other professional, academic, non-governmental or intergovernmental organizations (approximately 24 times per year) (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 8 (e));

(v) Pamphlets. An informational pamphlet on UNCITRAL activities of approximately 10 pages (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 8 (e));

(vi) Special events. Participation as co-organizers and moderators in the annual "Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot" at Vienna (A/51/17, paras. 271 and 272);

(vii) Technical material for outside users (CLOUT database). Presentation of court and arbitral decisions under the information system CLOUT in the form of an electronic database, in the six official languages of the General Assembly, on Internet that can be searched according to parameters such as the article of the convention, key-words, country of origin, type of decision, year, etc. (A/51/17, para. 247);

(d) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*. Participation by officials of the Branch in approximately 50 meetings of intergovernmental bodies inside and outside the United Nations system in order to carry out the mandate of the Commission to coordinate activities of organizations preparing texts on international trade law (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, para. 8 (a) and repeatedly reconfirmed by the Assembly);

(e) *Conference services*

Library services. Acquisition for and servicing of the UNCITRAL Law Library. The Library is administratively an integral part of the International Trade Law Branch. While its acquisitions and servicing policy are based on the needs of the subprogramme, it also services visiting scholars and ministry officials from various regions of the world, as well as the entire international community at the Vienna International Centre and the business, legal and academic community in Vienna;

(f) *Technical cooperation*

(i) Thirty-five missions, especially to developing countries and countries in transition, to brief government officials on UNCITRAL texts, to assist in preparing legislation based on UNCITRAL legislative texts and advise in the implementation of non-legislative UNCITRAL texts;

(ii) Thirty seminars on UNCITRAL texts to promote the work of UNCITRAL (General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), sect. II, paras. 8 (b), (c), (d), (e).

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

6.89 Estimated requirements of $3,225,600 would provide for the continuation of 10 Professional and higher level posts and 7 General Service posts. The resource growth of $199,200 reflects the application of new standardized vacancy rates.

Other staff costs

6.90 A provision of $8,800 would cover overtime requirements.

Consultants and experts

6.91 The estimated requirements of $180,600 would provide for consultancy services. An amount $86,400 will be required in connection with two reports to UNCITRAL in the area of international contract practices and electronic data interchange ($6,900); reports in the field of transport documents ($18,100); providing lectures at regional and national seminars on modernization of trade laws in Cuba, Viet Nam, China and Bolivia ($5,500); and in relation to upgrading the electronic databases of the UNCITRAL Law Library ($32,900) as well as for the creation of a CLOUT database on the Internet ($23,000). In addition, provision in the amount of $94,200 for six *ad hoc* expert group meetings on electronic commerce, international contract practices and private financing of public infrastructure projects is requested.

Travel

6.92 Estimated requirements of $69,800 would provide for attendance at meetings of other organizations that relate directly to the work of UNCITRAL as the core legal body in the coordination of the work of other organizations in the field of international trade law and to initiate or implement joint activities; attendance at meetings for the promotion of the adoption of UNCITRAL texts; and attendance at meetings of other international organizations for the purpose of obtaining substantive information for the preparation of UNCITRAL legal texts.

General operating expenses

6.93 The estimate of $22,000 would meet the costs of maintenance of office automation equipment.

Furniture and equipment

6.94 The estimate of $27,200 would cover the cost of purchasing new personal computers, CD ROM drives and notebooks with printers for use while travelling.

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Table 6.18 **Summary by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	4 045.0	4 083.1	1 202.2	29.4	5 285.3	338.8	5 624.1
Other staff costs	349.2	272.1	(58.9)	(21.6)	213.2	12.7	225.9
Consultants and experts	59.8	248.0	(197.8)	(79.7)	50.2	3.1	53.3
Contractual services	844.4	728.1	807.3	110.8	1 535.4	91.7	1 627.1
General operating expenses	83.8	110.6	(27.9)	(25.2)	82.7	5.0	87.7
Supplies and materials	9.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and equipment	463.1	515.7	(415.3)	(80.5)	100.4	6.0	106.4
Total	**5 854.4**	**5 957.6**	**1 309.6**	**21.9**	**7 267.2**	**457.3**	**7 724.5**

Table 6.19 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Treaty Section

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
P-5	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-4/3	5	8	—	—	—	—	5	8
P-2/1	4	5	—	—	—	—	4	5
Total	**10**	**14**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**10**	**14**
General Service category								
Principal level	6	11	—	—	—	—	6	11
Other levels	15	11	—	—	—	—	15	11
Total	**21**	**22**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**21**	**22**
Grand total	**31**	**36**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**31**	**36**

6.95 The subprogramme will be implemented by the Treaty Section.

6.96 The activities described below relate to discharging the Secretariat's responsibilities under Article 102 of the Charter and the Secretary-General's responsibilities as depositary of multilateral treaties. The provision of assistance on treaty law matters by the Treaty Section is also covered.

6.97 During the biennium the focus, in addition to maintaining and improving the services provided at present, including advice on treaty law matters, will be on:

(a) Further developing the database/workflow system being established in the Treaty Section to expedite all stages of the treaty processing and publication process;

(b) Eliminating the backlog in the *Monthly Statement of Treaties* and providing access to an improved version of this document on the Internet;

(c) Eliminating the backlog in the publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series* and improving the high level access to the *Series* on the electronic medium, including the Internet;

(d) Eliminating the backlog in the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* and providing electronic access;

(e) Maintaining the high level of service relating to the publication, *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General*, in response to requests from missions and others, in print and on the Internet.

6.98 The expansion of the international community in recent years has contributed to a significant increase in the number of treaties and treaty-related actions as more and more countries have sought to participate in existing multilateral agreements or have entered into treaties among themselves. Given the requirement under Article 102 of the Charter to register treaties or international agreements with the Secretariat and the Secretariat's obligation to publish them, this development has resulted in a significantly increased workload for the Treaty Section. Furthermore, assistance has been sought with regard to treaty law related matters with increasing frequency. Such assistance requests have taken various forms, including, informal requests and formal inquiries from foreign offices, missions, international agencies, non-governmental organizations and other entities on a wide range of legal and technical issues. The Section has also had to initiate an ever increasing range of contacts with missions and foreign offices with a view to clarifying information provided in connection with the participation in multilateral treaties and the registration and publication of treaties.

6.99 The work of the Section has for a long time been done employing methods which have changed little over the years despite the advent of computers. Information was laboriously checked and cross checked, recorded repeatedly at different points in the processing path, clarifications were obtained etc. The storage of information was, for the most part, on paper using manual methods.

6.100 One implication of this state of affairs was a significant impact on the timeliness of the mandated and other activities of the Section. Although legal advice sought was provided promptly, a major backlog developed in the publication of the *Monthly Statement of Treaties* (15 months), the United Nations *Treaty Series* (eight years) and the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* (14 years).

6.101 With a view to addressing the backlog, the Section has adopted a multifaceted approach, the primary aim of which is to implement a rational system which allows for the timely registration of treaties which, in turn, will permit the timely publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series*. This approach envisages the elimination of the backlog in the production of the United Nations *Treaty Series* in approximately three years, the elimination of the backlog in the *Monthly Statement of Treaties* within a shorter period and the elimination of the backlog in the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* within a three-year period.

6.102 During the biennium 1996-1997, a number of measures were undertaken with a view to achieving these objectives. A major computerization and training programme was initiated in the Section, using the provisions made in the 1996-1997 budget. Accordingly, during the biennium 1996-1997 new computers were provided to 28 members of the Section. Work on establishing a workflow/database was initiated. The work of the Indexation Unit and the Depositary Functions Unit were automated to a considerable extent, resulting in significant increases in productivity. Beginning in 1995, all staff were provided training in advanced computer skills, including database management. In addition training in management skills for managers and teamwork skills for all staff were provided. Consultations were conducted with the other relevant areas of the Organization, in particular, the Translation Division and the Procurement area, with a view to coordinating the production processes of the United Nations *Treaty Series* and expediting the outcome. The refurbishment of the General Service working area of the Section has been completed in line with the budget of biennium 1996-1997. This has provided a better working environment and will undoubtedly contribute to the enhancement of morale and improvements in productivity.

6.103 The major remaining task in the computerization programme relates to the completion of a new workflow/database which would enable the work performed by the different units of the Section to be linked comprehensively so that work processed in one unit could be automatically and simultaneously used by the other units. Although the budget for the biennium 1996-1997 envisaged the early implementation of a workflow/database system in full, this was not achieved in the course of 1996, mainly owing to the unsatisfactory nature of the responses to the request for proposals from vendors. In 1997, it was decided to delay the workflow element of the original plan and to emphasize the database aspect which will serve to a great extent the same original purpose while enabling the Section to expedite its work.

6.104 The following innovations currently being implemented would also contribute to further resource savings. Once the workflow/database system is in place, treaties received for registration and publication will be scanned into the system for processing. Registering parties have also been requested to submit documentation in electronic format which could then be processed more efficaciously, resulting in a shorter lead up time for registration and publication. The Section is seeking to obtain in electronic format, copies of United Nations *Treaty Series* volumes which have been typeset, so that they could be entered into the system and made available on the Internet with greater facility. This would also assist in speeding up the printing process. The Section will, in the near future, move from external typesetting to repro-copying treaties for publication and to desktop publishing, a technique already adopted in the Depositary Functions Unit and the Indexation Unit.

6.105 The publication *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General* has been available on the Internet since November 1995 (2,500 accessions per week). This has reduced the need for staff of the Section to intervene regularly to provide information sought by missions and other entities, and in the process has resulted in saving resources within the Section, to its users and also made the document readily available to a wider range of users.

6.106 A major expedited programme is being implemented to deal with the backlog in the United Nations *Treaty Series* and the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index*. There will be additional typesetting and printing costs associated with the increased number of United Nations *Treaty Series* volumes and printing costs only for the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* volumes in the biennium. If the backlog in the publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series* is to be effectively addressed and these documents to be placed on the Internet, as demanded by Member States, it would be absolutely necessary to make this one-time investment.

6.107 Fifteen hundred printed volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series* have already been converted to Optical Disk format and are available on the local area network (LAN). These will be made available on the Internet in 1997. Registered treaties that remain unpublished (approximately 300 volumes) will also be converted into Optical Disk format once they have been published. The published volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* and the League of Nations *Treaty Series* are in the process of being converted to Optical Disk format. They will also be placed on the Internet.

6.108 An effective multiple search mechanism based on the United Nations Treaty Information System (*UNTIS*) and the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* database is being developed to assist users of the Internet version of the United Nations *Treaty Series*. This will also enable the Section to conserve resources and also to provide a much superior service to the users of the United Nations *Treaty Series*. (There will be costs associated with the migration and refinement of data from the *UNTIS* to the personal computer environment for the above purposes. In addition, costs will have to be incurred to maintain and update the Internet version of the United Nations *Treaty Series* and related documents.)

6.109 As part of the rationalization process and consistent with the Organization's efficiency goals, five members of the Treaty Series Unit of the Copy Preparation and Proof-Reading Section, Office of Conference and Support Services, will be redeployed to the Treaty Section. Since the sole task of these staff members was to service the Treaty Section, they should be part of the Section (see below).

Activities

6.110 During the biennium 1998-1999, the following activities:

(a) *Substantive activities*

(i) Registration of treaties pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter

a. Registration and processing, including legal analysis, of approximately 5,000 new treaties and international agreements and subsequent actions relating to more than 40,000 treaties and international agreements already registered or filed and recorded with the Secretariat; provision of information on the status of registered instruments to Member States, intergovernmental organizations, the Secretariat, United Nations bodies and other entities;

b. Keeping such information updated and providing it to users through the electronic medium, including the Internet;

c. Migration of data from UNTIS which contains information recorded since 1946, including material registered with the League of Nations, to the personal computer environment. This data will be fed into the new workflow/database for processing for publication and for building the search mechanism on the Internet for the United Nations *Treaty Series*;

(ii) Publication of treaties pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter

a. Preparation of treaties for publication in the United Nations *Treaty Series*, including legal analysis; compilation of documentation submitted by the registering parties and preparation for translation into English and/or French, as necessary; addition of editorial material; setting up and maintaining a comprehensive database for references included in the United Nations *Treaty Series*;

b. Ensuring a smooth transition to desktop publishing, including through the use of documentation submitted in the electronic format; and scanning documents into the system for processing;

c. Providing access to the United Nations *Treaty Series* users through the electronic medium, including LAN and the Internet;

(iii) Depositary functions

a. Custody of 475 multilateral treaties and related instruments for which the Secretary-General performs depository functions in accordance with relevant final clauses; processing, recording and notifying Member States and/or participating Governments and international organizations of approximately 3,600 formalities for the biennium consisting of approximately 2,700 actions (signatures, ratifications, accessions, successions, acceptances, declarations, reservations) and 900 depositary notifications concerning multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General; provision of information on the status of multilateral treaties to international organizations, Governments, the Secretariat, United Nations bodies and other entities; establishment of certified true copies of multilateral treaties for Governments and intergovernmental organizations; rectification of instruments as required;

b. Maintenance, on a daily basis, of a comprehensive database of all depositary actions;

c. Updating on a regular basis, the information provided on LAN and the Internet;

d. Preparing the *Summary of Practice of the Secretary-General as Depository of Multilateral Treaties;*

(iv) Indexation function. Maintaining, updating and managing the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* database which will increase to 15,000 treaties by the end of 1997;

(v) General legal advice and services. Provision of legal advice, on all aspects of treaty law and depositary, registration and publication practice to governments, intergovernmental organizations, units of the Secretariat and other entities; and preparation of papers and other material for delivery at public gatherings;

(b) *Other substantive activities (publications)*

a. Preparation of manuscripts and establishment of camera-ready proofs for the publication *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General*, status as at 31 December 1998 (ST/LEG/SER.E/14) and status as at 31 December 1999 (ST/LEG/SER.E/15); preparation of the *Summary of Practice of the Secretary-General as Depository of Multilateral Treaties;*

b. Preparation of manuscripts and establishment of camera-ready proofs for 34 bilingual issues (English/French) of the *Monthly Statement of Treaties and International Agreements Registered or Filed and Recorded with the Secretariat* (ST/LEG/SER.A/...);

c. Preparation of manuscripts for typesetting and printing (in due course, repro-copied) of 140 volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series* in the biennium (the increase over the previous

biennium reflects the work programme designed to eliminate the backlog in the publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series*);

d. Preparation of printed volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series* and treaties submitted for registration and publication for dissemination on the electronic medium, including on LAN and the Internet;

e. Preparation of six internally compiled and typeset volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* covering volumes 1401-1700 of the United Nations *Treaty Series*. In addition, the preparation of a CD-ROM version of the United Nations *Treaty Series Cumulative Index* is being considered.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

6.111 Estimated requirements of $5,285,300 would provide for the continuation of 10 Professional and higher level posts and 21 General Service posts. The resource growth of $1,202,200 represents the combined effect of the application of new standardized vacancy rates, the redeployment of four Professional and one General Service level posts from the Office of Conference and Support Services, and the reclassification of five General Service posts to the Principal level in view of the complexity and expanding responsibilities related to the increased level of registration and publication of treaties.

Other staff costs

6.112 An estimate of $213,200 is proposed for temporary assistance to clear the data in the newly converted database ($201,200) and overtime requirements ($12,000) to supervise the transfer of files to the electronic medium.

Consultants and experts

6.113 A provision of $50,200 is proposed to cover the cost of consultant services in connection with the migration of data from the UNTIS to a personal computer environment.

Contractual services

6.114 The estimated requirements of $1,535,400 relate to external printing costs of 140 volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series*, 6 volumes of the *Cumulative Index* to the United Nations *Treaty Series* and external binding of 4 volumes of the *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General* ($1,505,900) and for acquisition and rental of software necessary to run the programme for the *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General* ($29,500).

General operating expenses

6.115 The estimated requirements of $82,700 relate to: (a) $40,500 for the office's share of the maintenance and support of the LAN technical infrastructure (including central servers) necessary for the support of central management services such as electronic mail, UNIX for IMIS, etc; and (b) $42,200 for maintenance of office automation equipment, including personal computers, two servers, one optical disk jukebox and one scanner which have been acquired.

Furniture and equipment

6.116 Estimated requirements of $100,400 are proposed for the acquisition and replacement of office automation equipment and software necessary to run the UNTIS/LAN workflow system.

C. Programme support

Table 6.20 **Summary by object of expenditure**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1994-1995 expenditures*	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1998-1999 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	—	963.4	89.6	9.3	1 053.0	67.6	1 120.6
Other staff costs	—	62.6	45.1	72.0	107.7	6.3	114.0
General operating expenses	—	83.6	48.3	57.7	131.9	7.9	139.8
Supplies and materials	—	30.7	24.6	80.1	55.3	3.4	58.7
Furniture and equipment	—	15.4	—	—	15.4	.9	16.3
Total	**—**	**1 155.7**	**207.6**	**17.9**	**1 363.3**	**86.1**	**1 449.4**

Table 6.21 **Post requirements**

Organizational unit: Executive Office

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1996-1997	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*	*1996-1997*	*1998-1999*
Professional category and above								
P-5	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-4/3	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	2
Total	**2**	**3**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**2**	**3**
General Service category								
Other levels	5	4	—	—	—	—	5	4
Total	**5**	**4**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**5**	**4**
Grand total	**7**	**7**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**7**	**7**

Activities

6.117 Beginning in the biennium 1996-1997, the Executive Office was reflected as a distinct organizational unit in order to consolidate the resources related to overall departmental support.

6.118 The Executive Office provides services to the Office of Legal Affairs in connection with personnel, budgetary and financial administration, resource planning and use of common services, together with administrative support to policy-making organs and other international meetings, as required.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

6.119 The estimated requirements of $1,053,000 would provide for the continuation of two Professional and four General Service posts. In addition to the existing Professional staff, provision is made for one new P-3 post to provide a common service to the Office of Legal Affairs in the area of systems analysis with responsibilities for information systems, database design and development and office automation.

Other staff costs

6.120 The resources of $107,700 would provide for the temporary replacement of staff on extended sick leave or maternity leave and additional staff during periods of peak workload ($89,600); and for overtime during periods of peak workload and unforeseen emergencies, as well as coverage of meetings ($18,100).

General operating expenses

6.121 A provision of $131,900 would cover the cost of electronic mail, long distance telephone and facsimile charges and other communications requirements of the Office of Legal Affairs ($122,000), as well as provide for maintenance of office automation equipment ($9,900) of the Executive Office. The growth of $57,700 reflects increased communication costs, attributable to significant increases in the facsimile and telephone contacts between Headquarters and other duty stations and other international organizations as well as the consolidation of communication expenditures under the Executive Office in line with the practice in other departments and offices.

Supplies and materials

6.122 The estimated requirements of $55,300 relate to expendable office supplies and materials, particularly data-processing supplies for the Office of Legal Affairs as a whole.

Furniture and equipment

6.123 An estimate of $15,400 is proposed for the purchase of new data-processing equipment and the replacement of office automation equipment for the Executive Office.